

**Subject:** Prepare for wet weather  
**From:** Mitch O'Farrell <councilmember.ofarrell@lacity.org>  
**Date:** 01/04/2016 05:15 PM  
**To:** Wilshire Center

Mitch O'Farrell, Councilmember, 13th District



Wilshire --

The Los Angeles area is bracing for several back-to-back rain events this week, and I want to be sure you have the most up-to-date information available on how the City is preparing for the wet weather, as well as provide you with some tips on what to do around your home to protect your family and companion animals.

Each year, the Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation (LASAN) prepares itself and Los Angeles residents and businesses for the rainy season. This year, we are anticipating El Niño, which will likely cause higher-intensity storms and potential flooding.

Here are some tips to prepare yourself for the wet weather ahead:

- Check your catch basins to make sure they are clear of debris. Call LASAN at 311 or 1-800-773-2489 for assistance with debris removal.
- Ensure your building drainage is clear of debris, including rain gutters.
- Secure any loose palm fronds, tarps, loose items that may be carried away by rain or be blown away.
- Cover steep slopes on your property that are not vegetated, which may become unstable when saturated by rain.
- Use sand bags to protect properties in low lying areas. Contact your neighborhood fire station for sandbags. A complete list of stations can be found [here](#).
- Have alternate evacuation routes out of your neighborhood.
- If you have sprinklers, turn them off before, during and after rain.
- Install rain barrels to capture rain. LADWP provides rebates for up to 4 rain barrels per property.
- Reduce water consumption during rain to reduce flows in our sewers.
- Create an emergency kit including the following items: Food and water to last three days to a week (extra for pets); First aid kit & medications (over-the-counter and prescription); Radio (with extra batteries); Cash and important documents; Blankets; Clothing and sturdy shoes; Tools (wrench, duct tape, fire extinguisher, sturdy gloves, whistle); Sanitation and hygiene supplies.

The Los Angeles Fire Department has also issued safety tips, [which can be found here](#).

Finally, I encourage all of you to sign up for the City's emergency alerts that can be sent via text message to your mobile device. More info can be found at [www.EINinoLA.com](http://www.EINinoLA.com).

Please take the necessary steps to keep you and your family safe this winter. Of course, if you have any questions, please feel free to call my district office at 213-207-3015.

Stay safe,

Mitch O'Farrell